



Water Use Mitigation & Water Banking in Idaho

Remington Buyer
Water Supply Bank Coordinator
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Water Mitigation & Banking in Idaho

1. Idaho's water right institutions

2. Minimum Streamflows in Idaho

3. Application of the prior appropriation doctrine in Idaho

4. Use of models to evaluate impacts attributable to water use changes

5. Idaho's Water Supply Bank Program



Water Mitigation & Banking in Idaho

Idaho's water right institutions



Water right
approval &
administration



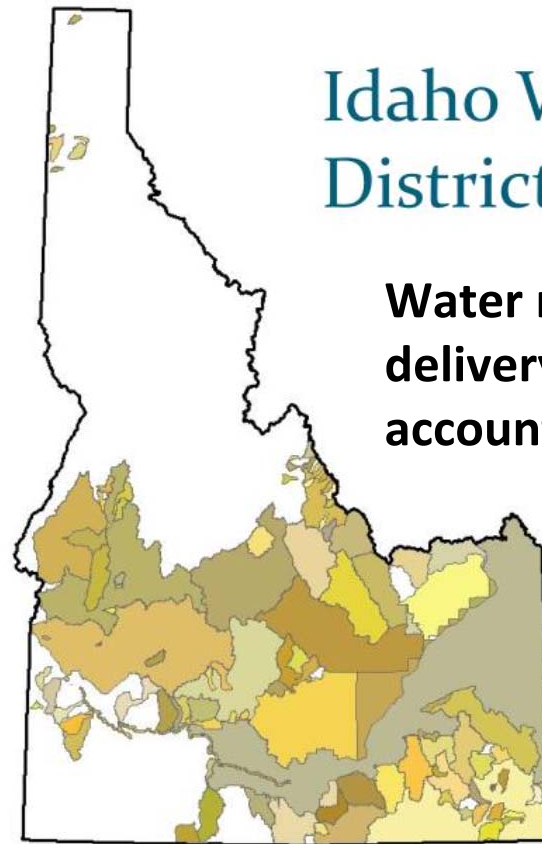
Water resource
planning, projects
& minimum
streamflows



Water right
adjudications

Idaho Water Districts

Water right
delivery &
accounting





Water Mitigation & Banking in Idaho

Minimum Streamflows in Idaho

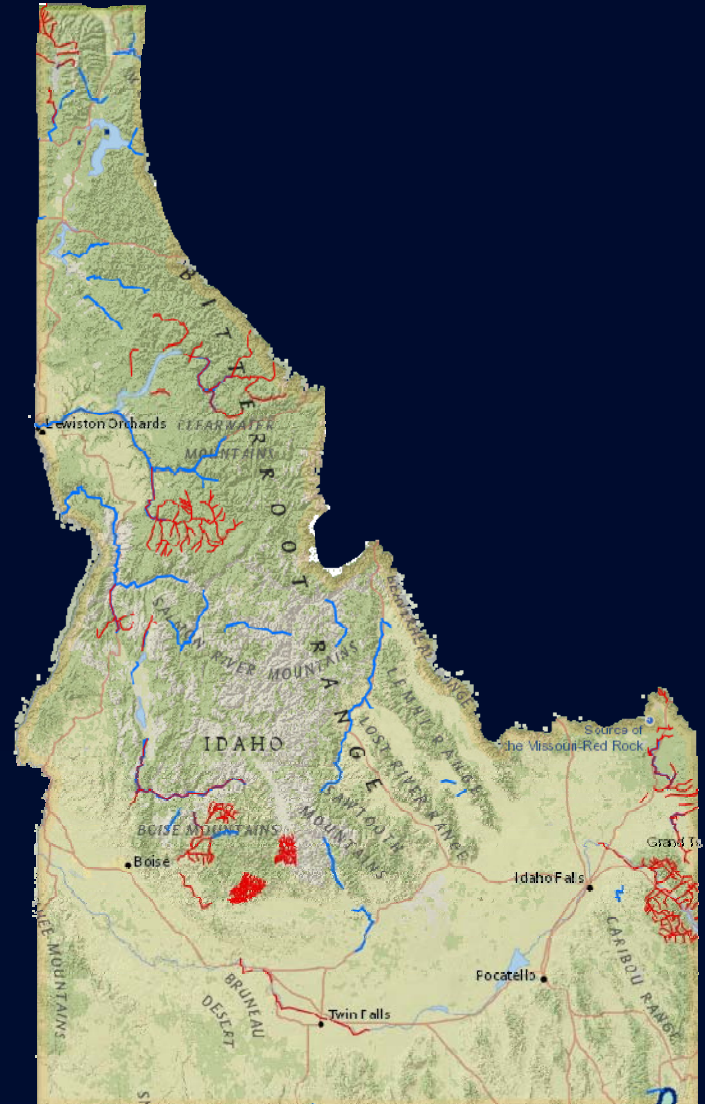
291 min. streamflow
& 3 min. lake level
water rights

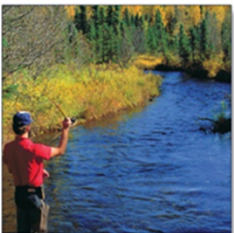


Managed by the IWRB

Unmet MSFs can be supplemented by:

- water right rentals,
- aquifer recharge,
- mitigation plans,
- agreements not to divert (ANTDs)





Water Mitigation & Banking in Idaho

Application of the prior appropriation doctrine in Idaho



Approval of water right permits, licenses, transfers, exchanges, rentals, curtailment calls and mitigation plans

Approvals cannot cause injury

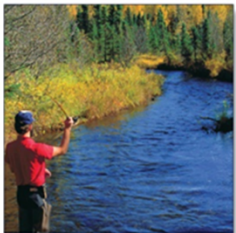
Impact \neq Injury

Material injury is defined in rule (IDAPA 37.03.11.42)

Mitigation is required to guard against or mitigate for injury

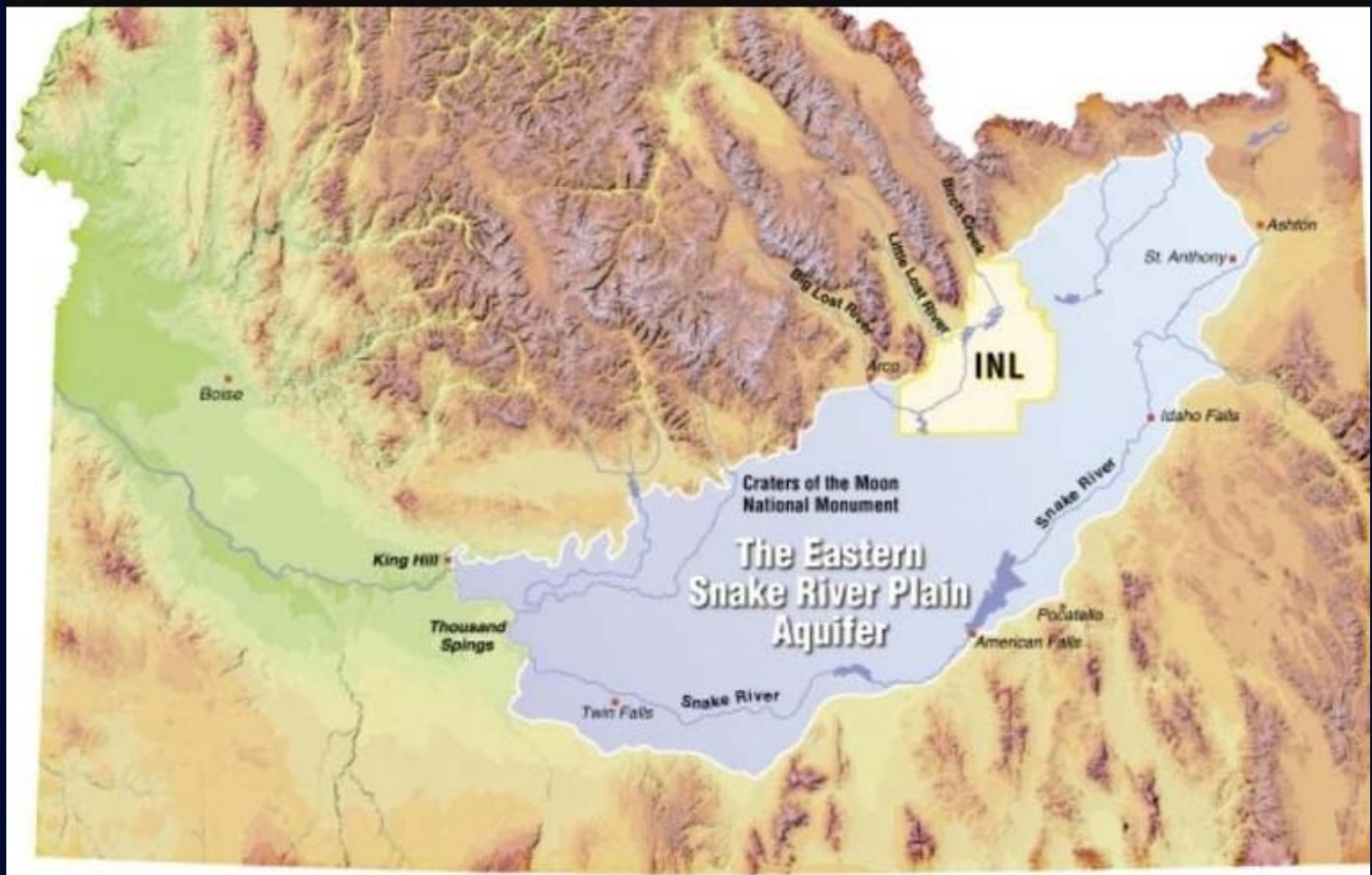
Mitigation must be in kind, in time and in location

Mitigation can be secured through a water right transfer, exchange or rental



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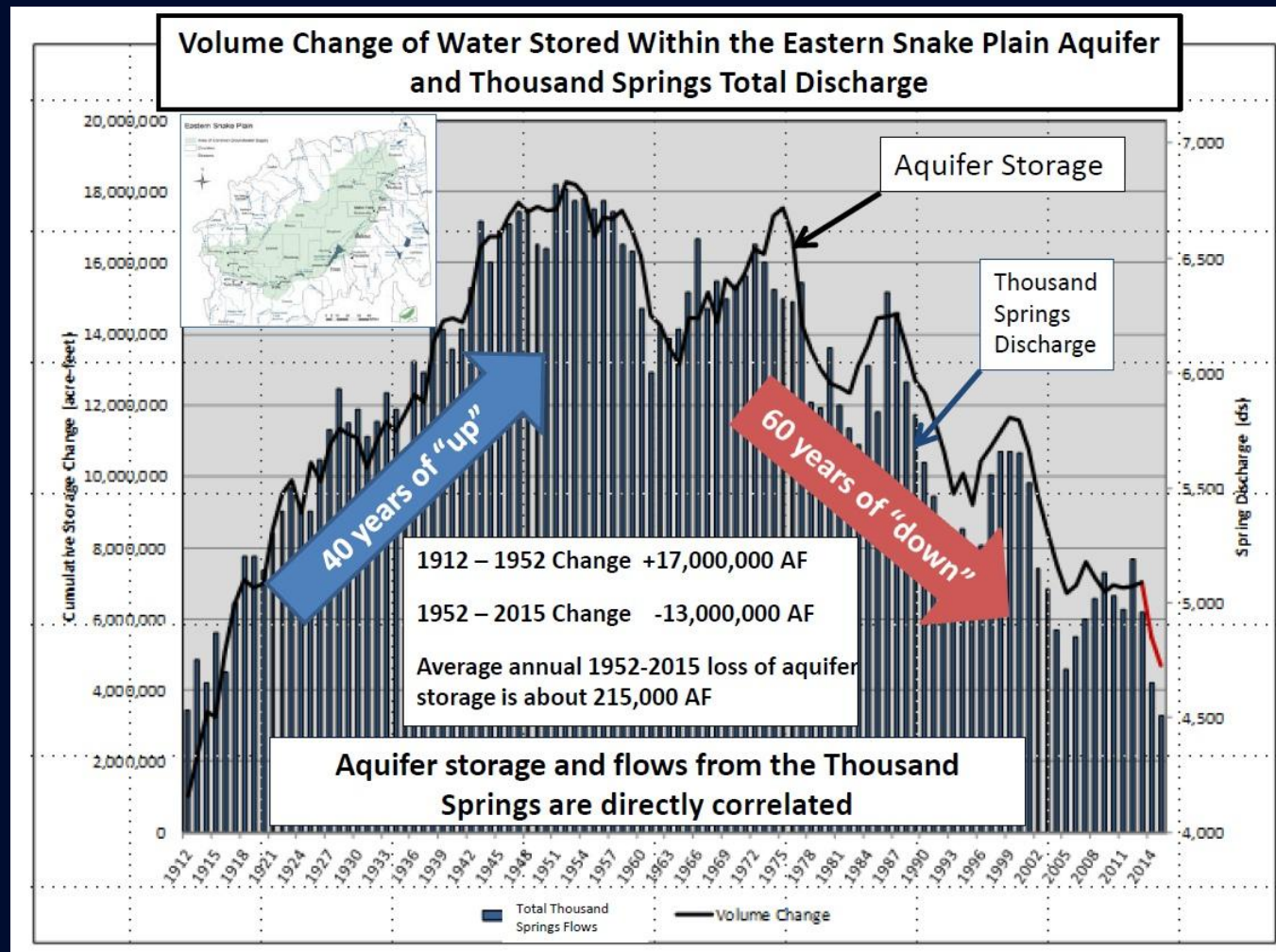
Application of the prior appropriation doctrine in Idaho





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Application of the prior appropriation doctrine in Idaho



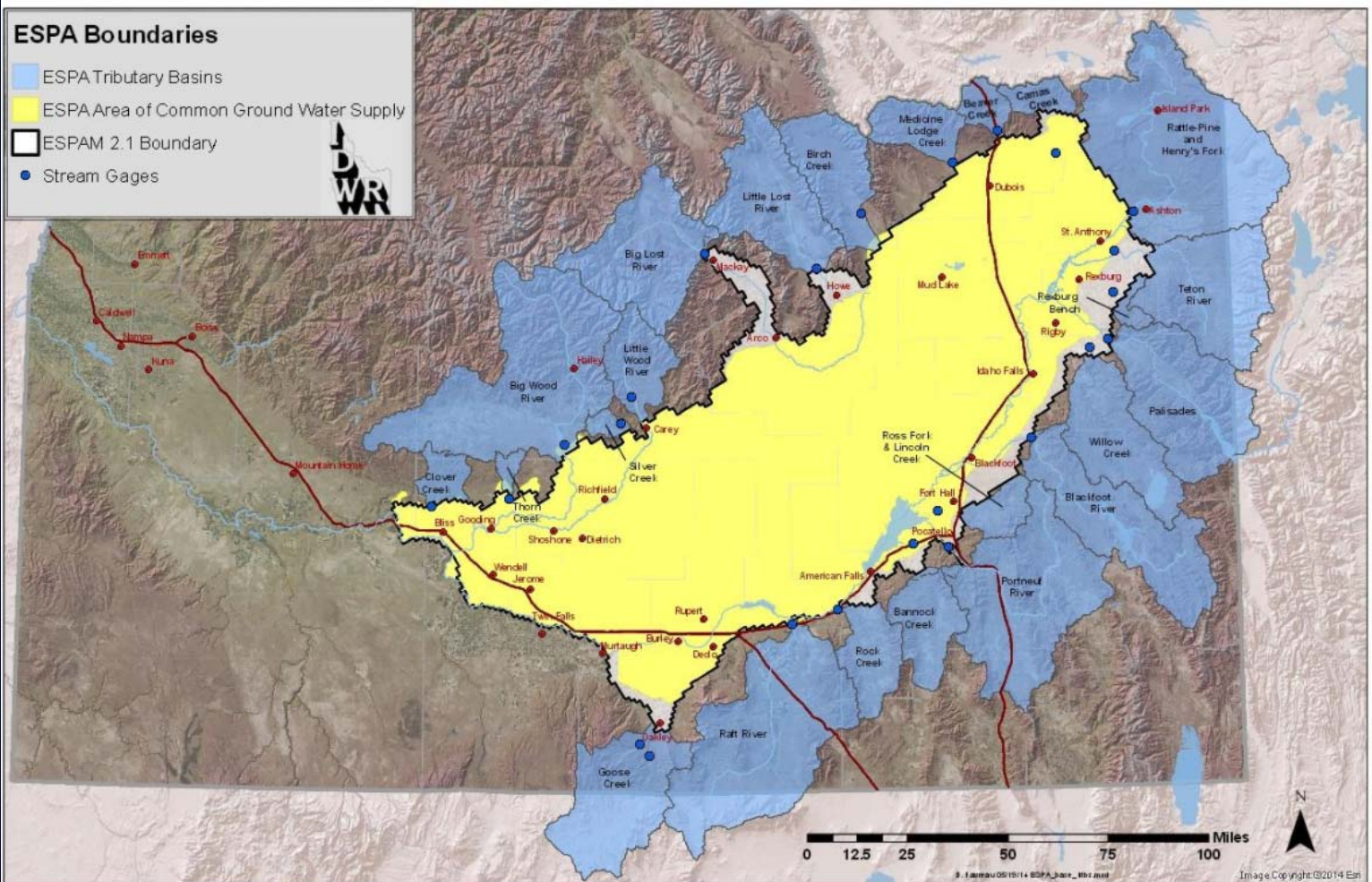
Water Mitigation & Banking in Idaho

Use of models to evaluate impacts attributable to water use changes



ESPA Boundaries

- ESPA Tributary Basins
- ESPA Area of Common Ground Water Supply
- ESPAM 2.1 Boundary
- Stream Gages





Water Mitigation & Banking in Idaho

Use of models to evaluate impacts attributable to water use changes

USGS Eastern
Snake River Plain
Aquifer Model
(ESPAM)

Water right
transfer tool built
off of ESPAM
(ETRAN)

Snake River
divided into 11
reaches

Maximum
permissible
impacts
established

Mitigation is required for transfers where:

1. modeled depletions in any reach increase by more than 2/af /trimester;
2. modeled depletions in any reach increase by more than 10%, and
3. modeled depletions in any reach are greater than 10% of the sum of all depletions modeled in all reaches.



Water Mitigation & Banking in Idaho

Idaho's Water Supply Bank program

The **Water Supply Bank** is a water exchange market operated by the **Idaho Water Resource Board**, through the **Director of the Department of Water Resources**, in association with **water districts** and IWRB-appointed **local rental committees**, to facilitate the acquisition and voluntary exchange of water rights in Idaho, to satisfy *new and supplemental water uses*.

WSB operated pursuant to:

- **statutes** (Idaho Code sections 42-1761 through 42-1766),
- **rules** (Idaho Administrative Code IDAPA 37.02.03),
- policies and procedures of water districts, IDWR and the IWRB.

All beneficial uses of water can be authorized via a Water Supply Bank rental, including **mitigation**, **ground water recharge** and **streamflow maintenance** uses.



Water Mitigation & Banking in Idaho

Idaho's Water Supply Bank program

The Board's Bank

A statewide, water exchange marketplace facilitating the lease and rental of water rights.

Regional Rentals Pools

Regional (basin-specific) water exchange markets to facilitate the lease and rental of storage water or natural flow water rights.

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Water Supply Bank

An Upper Snake River reservoir storage water rental program operated by the Tribes, pursuant to IDAPA 37.02.04 rules.



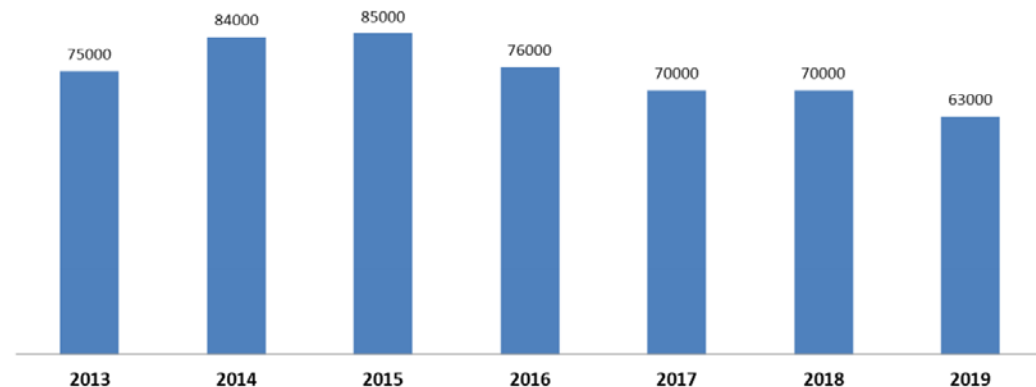
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Idaho's Water Supply Bank program

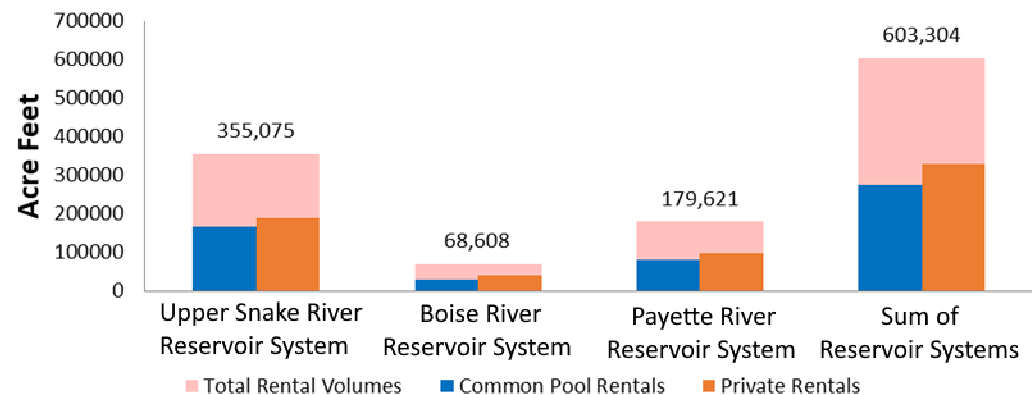
The Board's Bank

Regional Rental Pools

Rented Volume by Year (AF)



Common Pool & Private Rentals in 2019



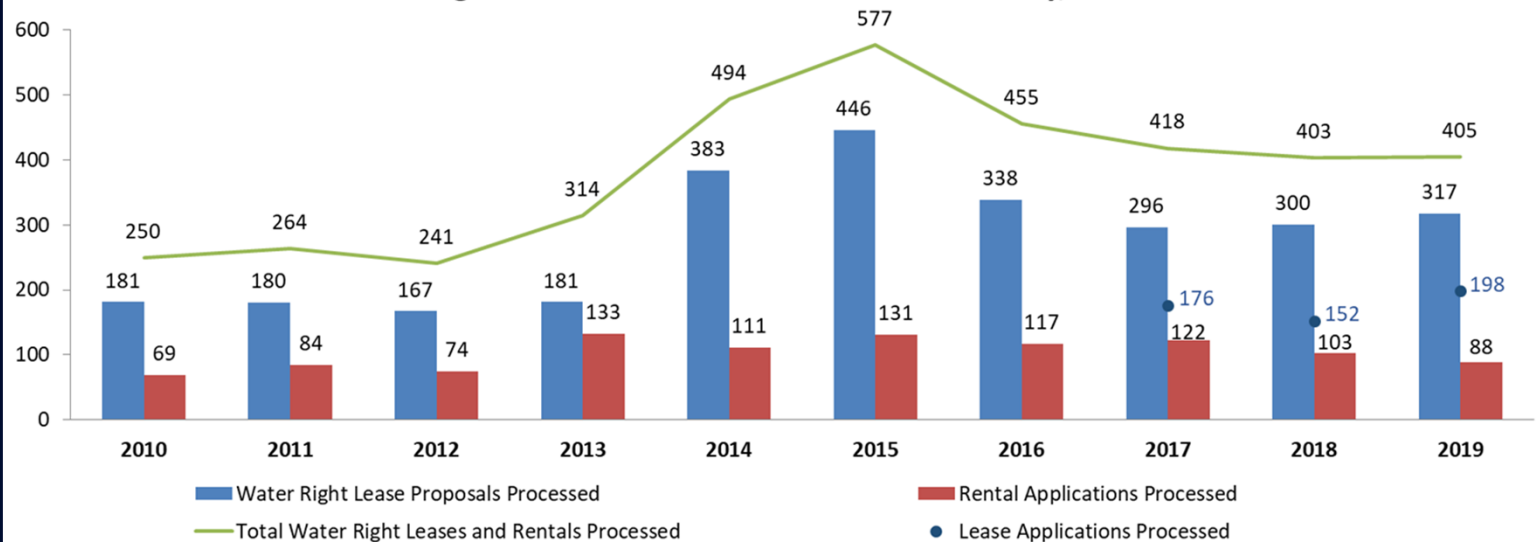


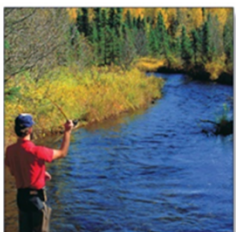
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Idaho's Water Supply Bank program

The Board's Bank

Water Right Leases and Rentals Processed Annually, 2010-2019



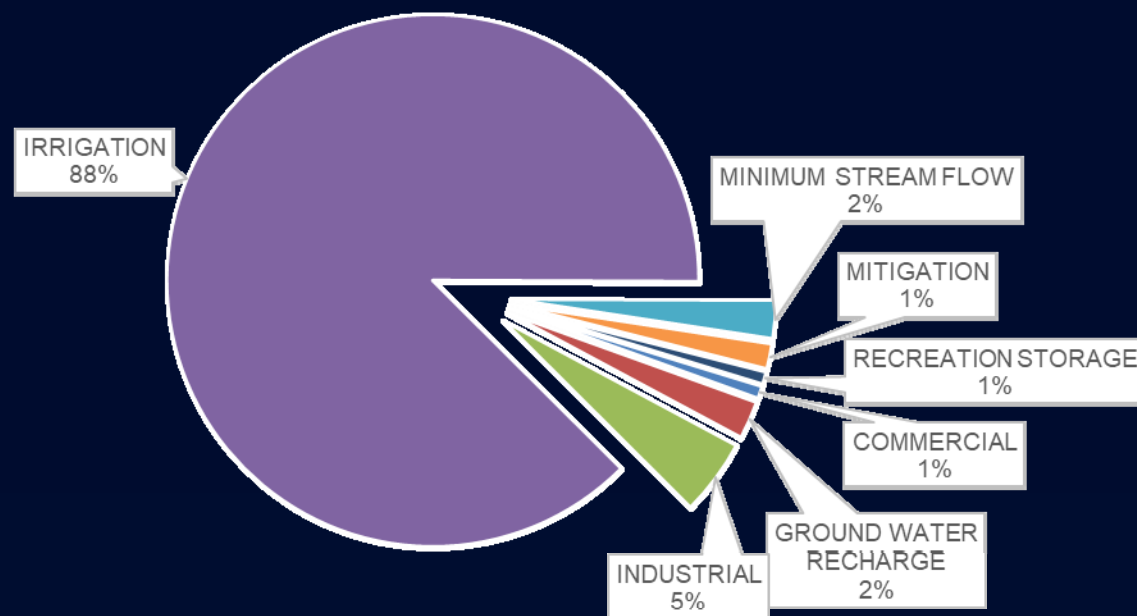


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2019 Rental Requests





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Questions?



Thousand Springs, Magic Valley Idaho